

REMARKS

Claims 2-44 are remaining in this patent application. Claim 1 is canceled, and Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 14, 20, 41 and 43 are amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and review of the application in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

At the outset, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 7-9 and 20, and the allowance of Claims 4-6, 10-13, 15-19 and 21-40. Applicants have amended Claims 7, 9 and 20 to independent form, including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have also amended Claims 2, 3, 41 and 43 to depend upon one of the previously allowed claims. Accordingly, Applicants consider these claims to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants note that the Office Action failed to recognize Claims 41-44, which were added in the previous Amendment. Since these claims are now dependent on one of the previously allowed claims, Applicants consider these claims to be allowable as well.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Eherenleitner. In the interest of advancing this application to allowance, Applicants have canceled Claim 1 and amended Claims 2-3 and 14 to depend on a previously allowed claim. Accordingly, this ground of rejection is now deemed moot.

Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2-44 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested, and a timely Notice of Allowability is solicited. If it would be helpful to placing this application in condition for allowance, the Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact the undersigned counsel and conduct a telephonic interview.

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To the extent necessary, Applicants petition the Commissioner for a two-month extension of time, extending to September 10, 2007, the period for response to the Office Action dated April 10, 2007. The Commissioner is authorized to charge \$225. for the two-month extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR §1.17(a)(2), any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0639.

Date: August 24, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Berliner', written over a horizontal line.

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